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AN INTRODUCTION TO WRITTEN HINDI, A PROGRAMMED COURSE IN THE DEVANAGARI SCRIPT. SECOND VERSION, PARTS I-VI.
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THIS COURSE, WHICH IS DIVIDED INTO SIX PARTS, IS DESIGNED TO TEACH THE STUDENT OF HINDI HOW TO WRITE THE DEVANAGARI SCRIPT, THE WRITING SYSTEM OF THE LANGUAGE. SINCE THERE IS GENERALLY ONE LETTER FOR EACH VOWEL AND ONE FOR EACH CONSONANT, THE SPELLING RULES ARE FAIRLY REGULAR AND SIMPLE. IN THIS COURSE, EXAMPLES FROM DEVANAGARI ARE ILLUSTRATED IN BOTH TYPEWRITTEN AND PRINTED FORM, AND THE STUDENT IS TAUGHT ONE STYLE OF HANDWRITING--A SIMPLE CLEAR LETTERING. (FB)

ED012900

AN INTRODUCTION TO WRITTEN HINDI

A Programmed Course in the Devanagari Script

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Second Version

Parts I-VI

James W. Stone

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FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JULY 1965

Hindi is written in the Devanagari script. The most striking characteristic of Devanagari is the heavy line across the top of each letter.

Devanagari is written from left to right, like English. There are 54 letters in the alphabet. In general, there is one letter for each vowel and one for each consonant. This makes the spelling rules very regular and simple. Thus, although the number of symbols is fairly large, Hindi is an easy language to read. By and large, words are spelled as they are pronounced. There are no capital letters.

Three kinds of writing are used in this course. Most of the Devanagari examples are produced by typewriter. Printed forms of all the letters will also be shown. And you will learn how to write Hindi.

There are, of course, several styles of handwriting, and different people write somewhat differently. In this Introduction you will be taught one style of handwriting--a simple, clear kind of lettering. (There is no distinction between 'printing' and cursive writing such as we have in English.)

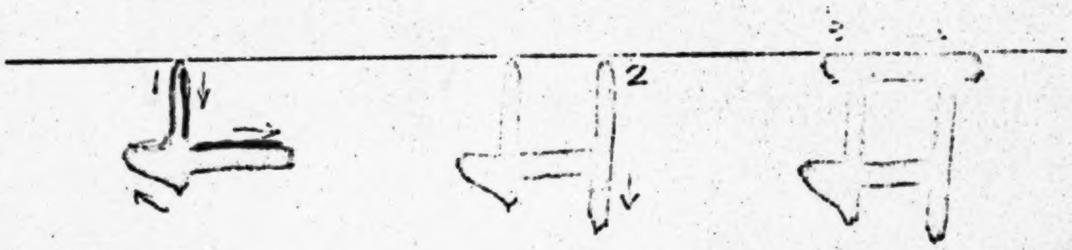
Many of the examples shown in this course are real Hindi words, some of which you will probably recognize. Many are 'nonsense words', made up to give you more practice on particular features of the writing system; all of these are, however, possible words--permissible letter combinations. Don't try to remember these examples as vocabulary items, or worry about what they mean, but just concentrate on learning to recognize them.

This Introduction is divided into many small sections, called frames. Some frames take up a whole page, but most pages are divided into four or five frames by heavy horizontal lines. While you are studying the first frame on a page, you should cover the following frames with a piece of cardboard. If the first frame asks a question, the second contains the answer. After finishing the first frame, move the card down to expose the next frame--as far as the next heavy horizontal line. Word through the frames in order, one by one.

This Devanagari letter represents the consonant m̱.

म

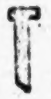
m̱ is written with three separate strokes. The numbers in the diagram indicate where each stroke begins. The first stroke of m̱ may have a small loop at the corner, made by a clockwise motion of the pen. The top line is added last.



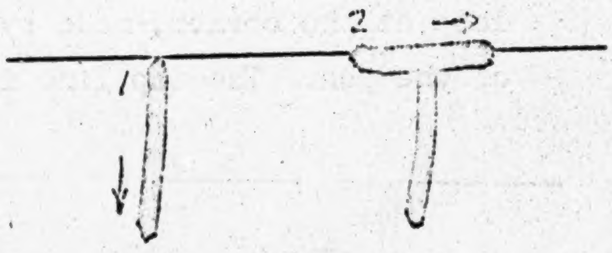
When Devanagari is written on lined paper, the letters are 'hung' from the line. When you are asked to write Devanagari in this Introduction, a thin line is given for you to write under.

Practice writing m̱ on scratch paper, then copy this letter three times below.

This letter represents the vowel aa.

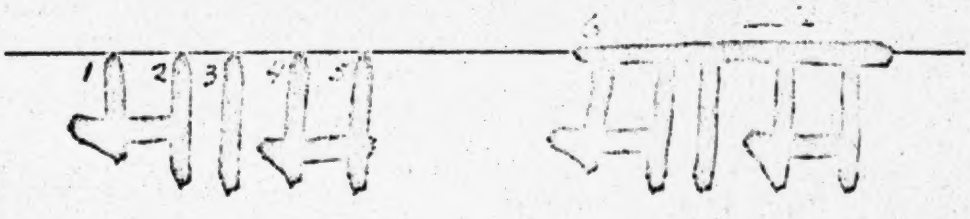


In handwriting, the vertical line is drawn first, from the top down, and the horizontal top line is added last.



Copy aa three times below.

In this style of handwriting, the letters are first written without the top line. After all the letters of a word have been written, the top line is drawn straight across, joining them all in one written word. A word like maam would be written this way:



When written by typewriter, maam looks like this:

माम

Now put the card across the page, and move it down to expose just the first frame. Look at the item on the left, and say it aloud. Them copy it in Devanagari under the line in the middle of the page. Then write the word in Roman transcription on the line at the right. When you have finished, move the card down and check your answer. If your answer is incorrect, circle it.

____

मा

____

_______________ maa

माम

____

_______________ maam

मामा

____

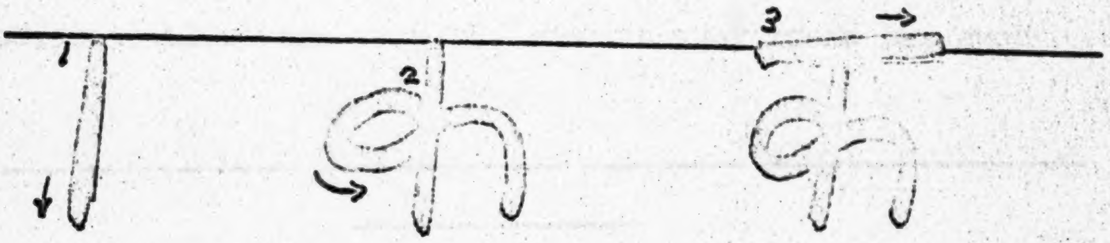
---

maamaa

This Devanagari letter represents k:

क

k is written with three strokes:



Practice writing k on scratch paper, then copy this letter three times below.

The typewritten form of k looks like this:

क

The right side may have either a smooth curve or a sharp corner.

का ____________

____
- -
kaa

काम ____________

____
- -
kaam

माका ____________

____
- -
maakaa

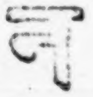
कामाक ____________

____
- -
kaamaak

माकाम ____________

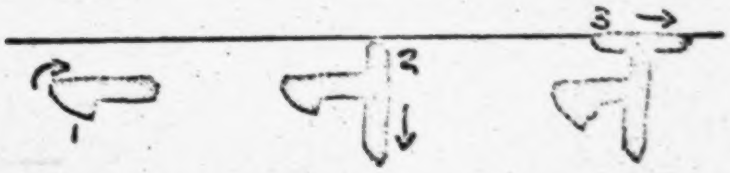
____
- -
maakaam

This is the consonant n:



न

n is written with three strokes:



n begins with a dot or a very small circle, drawn clockwise.

After practicing on scratch paper, copy n three times below.

____

ना

____

naa

____

नाम

____

naam

____

कान

____

kaan

____

माना

____

maanaa

____

का नाम

____

kaa naam

____

नाम

____

---

naam

____

कान

____

---

kaan

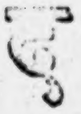
The next frame is of a different type. A word is given in Roman transcription. Write this word in Devanagari under the line in the middle of the page. This kind of frame will be used occasionally in the rest of this course, but most of the frames will be like those you have been doing.

____

kaam

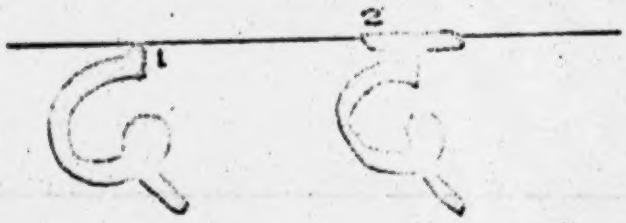
काम

This is the consonant d (dental d):



द

d is written with two strokes:



Copy d three times below.

____

दाम

____

---

daam

____

दादा

____

---

daadaa

____

नाद

____

---

naad

____

काद

____

---

kaad

____

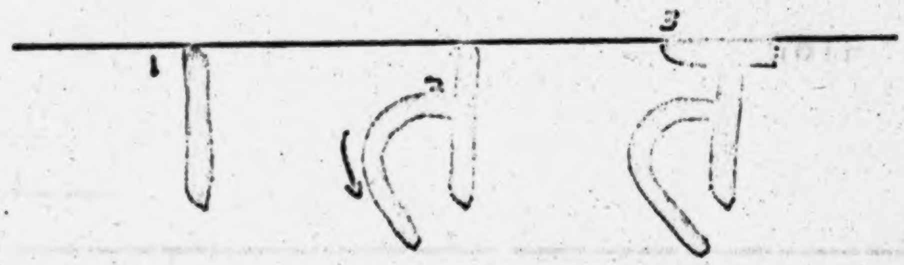
daan

दान

This is t̲ (dental t̲):

त　　　　त

t̲ is written in three strokes:



Copy t̲ three times below.

____

तान

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

taan

____

माता

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

maataa

____

दानात

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

daanaat

____

ताकान

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

taakaan

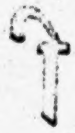
____

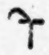
taam

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

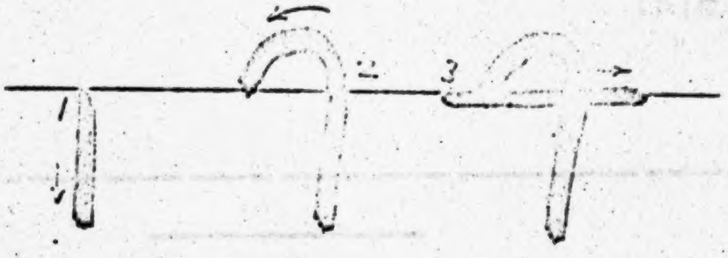
ताम

This letter represents the vowel ii.





The vertical stroke is drawn first; then the upper curve is added, from right to left.



Copy ii three times here.

____

की

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

kii

____

तानी

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

taanii

____

कीमा

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

kiimaa

____

नीती

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

niitii

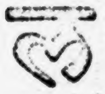
____

tiin

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

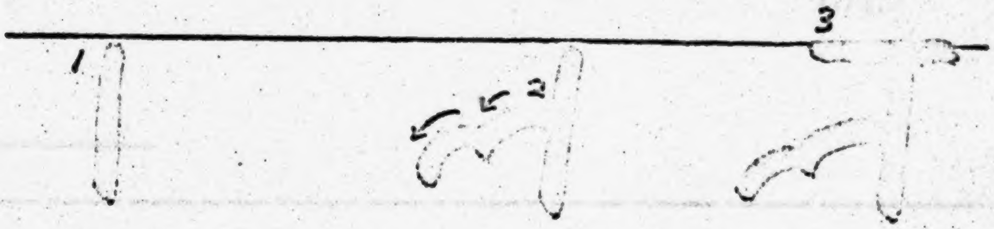
तीन

This Devanagari letter represents l.



ल

l is written with three strokes:



Copy this letter below.

लाल

laal

लाती

laatii

काली

kaalii

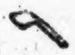
नीला

niilaa

maal

माल

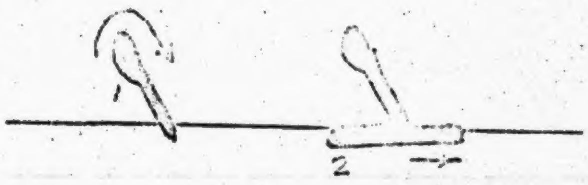
This letter represents the vowel ee.
It is written above the line.



When the vowel ee follows a consonant,
this letter is written above the consonant letter:

ले	lee
ते	tee

The consonant letter is written first, and then ee is added above it. It begins with a small clockwise loop.



Write ee three times above this line.

____

____

केले

______

keelee

____

लेता

______

leetaa

____

नीले

______

niilee

____

देती

______

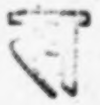
deetii

____

leenii

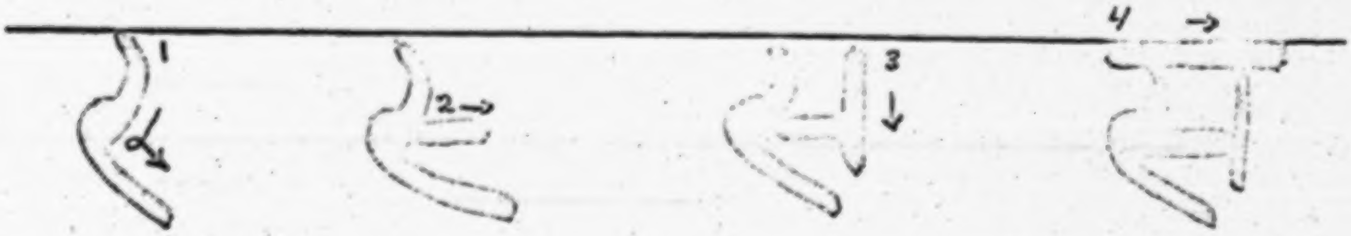
लेनी

The consonant s:



स

s is written with four strokes. At the angle of the first stroke the pen may make a small clockwise motion.



Write s three times below.

सीता

siitaa

दास

daas

साल

saal

सामने

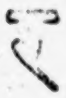
saamnee

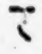
---

saamaan

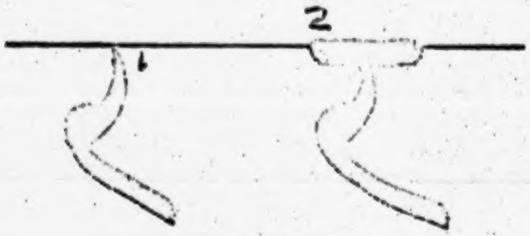
सामान

This is the Devanagari letter for *r*.





r is like the first stroke of *s*, with the top line.



Copy *r* below.

____

रात

____

raat

____

सारा

____

saaraa

____

रानी

____

raanii

____

तेरा

____

teeraa

____

miir

मीर

रेल

reel

राम

raam

मेरी

meerii

सेर

seer

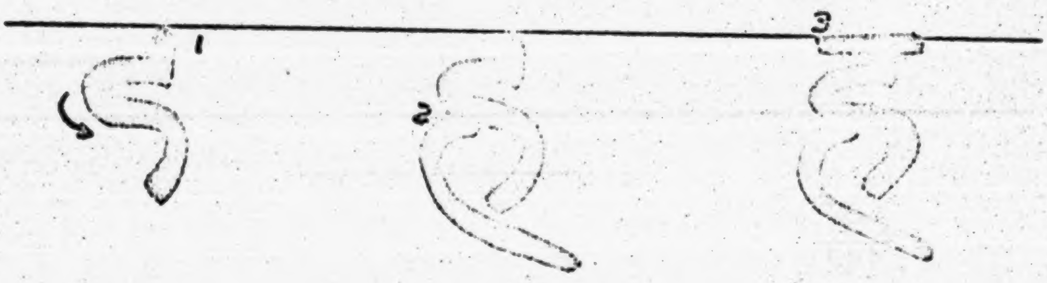
meeree

मेरे

The consonant h:

ह   ह

The manuscript h is somewhat simpler than the printed and typewritten forms shown above. It is written in three strokes.



After sufficient practice, copy h three times.

____

हाल

____

haal

____

साहे

____

saahee

____

हीम

____

hiim

____

रेहा

____

reehaa

____

hii

ही

Many words are written with just two consonant letters. These are one-syllable words, with the vowel a.

हम	कम	कल
ham	kam	kal

____

हर

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

har

____

मत

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

mat

____

रस

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

ras

____

कर

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

kar

____

tak

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

तक

When two consonant letters are written together at the beginning of a word, the vowel a is pronounced between them.

हमारा

hamaaraa

कमी

kamii

सके

sakee

सही

sahii

मकान

makaan

कराना

karaanaa

सलाम

salaam

हरा

haraa

करे

karee

रही

rahii

लता

lataa

महान

mahaan

रसीद

rasiid

करना

karnaa

सकते

saktee

करती

kartii

हल्के

halkee

कनरा

kanraa

Devanagari letters introduced in Part I

Consonants:

क	k	र	r
त	t	ल	l
द	d	स	s
न	n	ह	h
म	m		

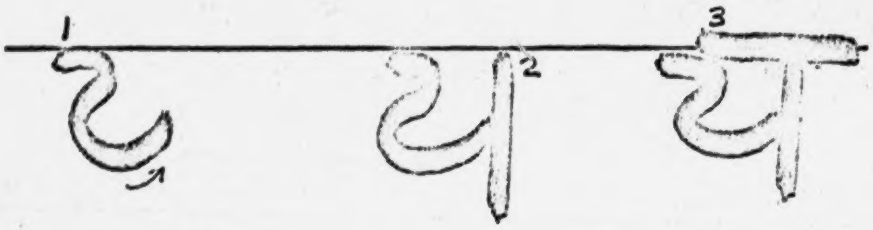
With Vowels:

का	kaa
की	kii
के	kee

This Devanagari letter represents y:

य   य

y is written with three strokes:



Copy y three times below.

____

या

yaa

याद

yaad

यही

yahii

नया

nayaa

laayaa

लाया

A nasalized vowel is indicated by a dot above the line.

हां	हा	कीं	की	लें	ले
hãã	haa	kĩĩ	kii	lẽẽ	lee

यहां

yahãã

नहीं

nahĩĩ

कहां

kahãã

लेतें

leetẽẽ

सकें

sakẽẽ

कहें

kahẽẽ

नींद

nīīd

में

mẽẽ

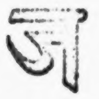
यहीं

yahīī

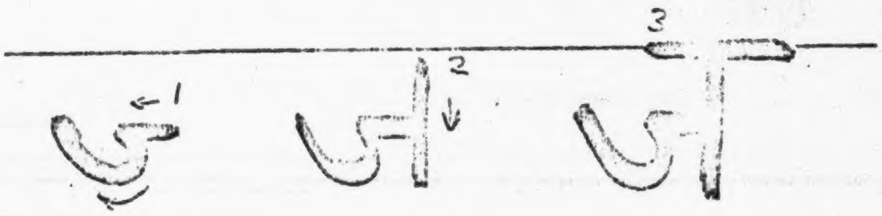
nahīī

नहीं

This is the consonant j:

 ज

j is made up of three strokes. The first stroke moves to the left.



After adequate practice, copy j below.

____

जीते

jiitee

राजा

raajaa

जहां

jahãã

जमने

jamnee

जाना

jaanaa

सजनी

sajnii

समाज

samaaj

जानना

jaannaa

राज

raaj

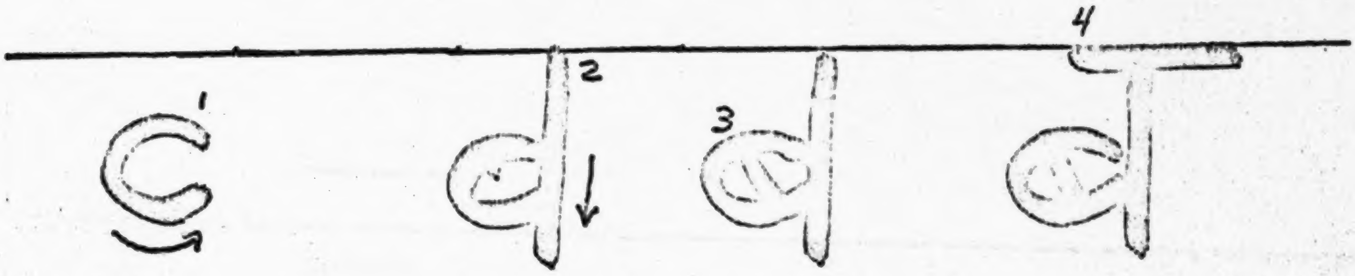
jii hãã

जी हां

This is the letter for the consonant b:

ब ब

b is written with four separate strokes.



Copy b three times below.

बात

baat

बीस

biis

बजाने

bajaanee

बायां

baayãã

sab

सब

____

बार

____

baar

____

सेब

____

seeb

____

कब

____

kab

____

बस

____

bas

____

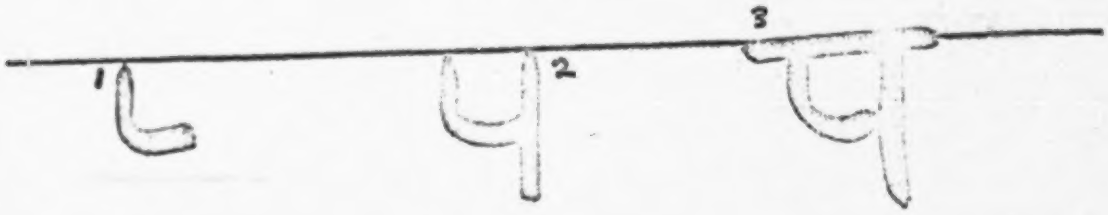
beer

बेर

The consonant p:

प　　　प

This letter is written with three strokes.



Copy p below.

____

पीला

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

piilaa

____

पाया

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

paayaa

____

पपीता

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

papiitaa

____

बाप

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

baap

____

pataa

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

पता

The vowel ai is indicated by this letter:

ै

This letter consists of two strokes, each like that of े. It is written above the consonant which it follows.

पै	pai
जै	jai

है

hai

हैं

hãĩ

कैसे

kaisee

बैरा

bairaa

paisaa

पैसा

____

पैदा

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

paidaa

____

जैसी

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

jaisii

____

मैं

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

mãĩ

____

पैंतालीस

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

pãĩtaaliis

____

paijaamee

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

पैजामे

____

मैदान

____

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

maidaan

____

तैयार

____

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

taiyaar

____

सैंतीस

____

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

sãĩtiis

____

कैसा

____

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

kaisaa

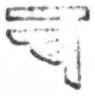
____

hãĩ

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

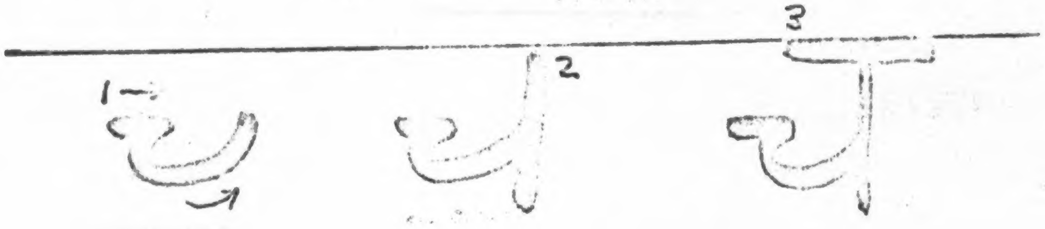
हैं

This is the consonant c.



च

c can be written in three strokes.



Copy it three times.

चार

caar

चालीस

caaliis

पचास

pacaas

पांच

pããc.

niicee

नीचे

सच

sac

चलातो

calaatii

चांदनी

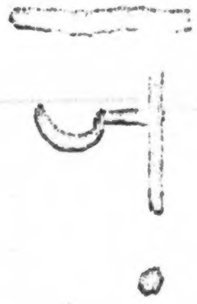
cããdnii

पहचाने

pah̆caanee

biic

बीच



ज़

The letter ज with a dot below it indicates the consonant z.

____

बाज़ार

____

---

baazaar

____

ज़मीन

____

---

zamiin

____

ज़रा

____

---

zaraa

____

मेज़ें

____

---

meezẽẽ

____

ciiz

चीज़

ज़बान

zabaan

तेज़

teez

नमाज़

namaaz

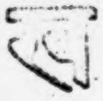
ताज़ी

taazii

नज़दीक

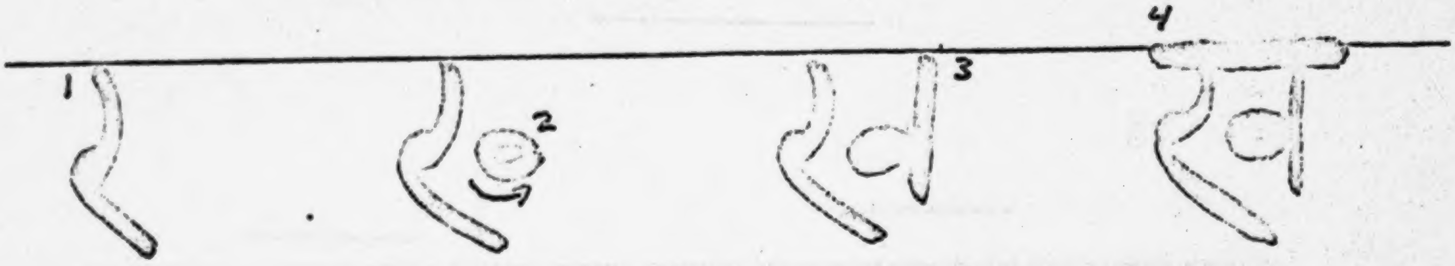
nazdiik

The consonant kh:



ख

The first stroke of kh is like r.



Practice kh on scratch paper, then copy it
three times:

____

खाना

____

_ _

khaanaa

____

देखें

____

_ _

deekhẽẽ

____

खेल

____

_ _

kheel

____

रखती

____

_ _

rakhtii

____

kheetii

_ _

खेती

खैंच

khãĩc

खींचना

khĩĩcnaa

खेलते

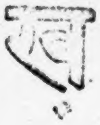
kheeltee

खादी

khaadii

khiiraa

खीरा



ख़

The letter ख with a dot under it stands for the consonant x̲.
(The transliteration k͟h is also used for ख़ .)

____

ख़ास

____

xaas

____

ख़ायाल

____

xaayaal

____

ख़ान

____

xaan

____

ख़ाली

____

xaalii

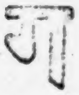
____

xariidẽẽ

____

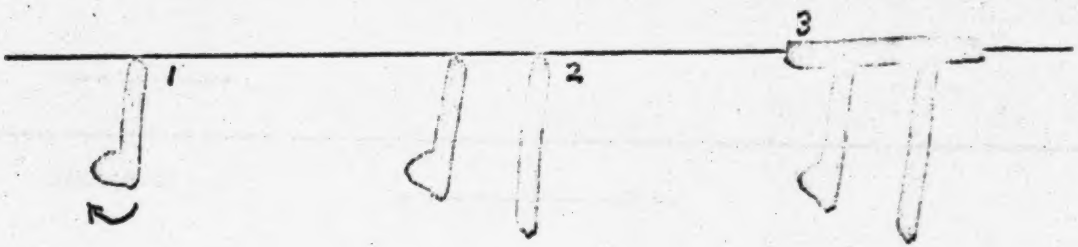
ख़रीदें

This letter represents the consonant g:



ग

The first stroke of g is drawn downward and ends with a small dot or hook, made with a clockwise movement of the pen.



Copy g here three times.

गली

galii

लगता

lagtaa

मांगनी

määgnii

लगाते

lagaatee

tääгaa

तांगा

Devanagari letters introduced in Parts I-II

Consonants:

क	k	ख	kh	ग	g		
		ख़	x				
च	c			ज	j		
				ज़	z		
त	t			द	d	न	n
प	p			ब	b	म	m
य	y	र	r	ल	l		
				स	s	ह	h

Vowel:

इ	i	इं	ĩ

Vowels after a consonant:

गा	gaa	गां	gãã
गी	gii	गीं	gĩĩ
गे	gee	गें	gẽẽ
गै	gai	गैं	gãĩ

Reading rule: If a written word begins with two consonant letters, the vowel a̲ follows the first consonant. (This includes a word which is spelled with just two consonant letters.)

The vowel aa is represented by two letters, which are used in different positions in the word. The letter ा is used after a consonant:

काम kaam

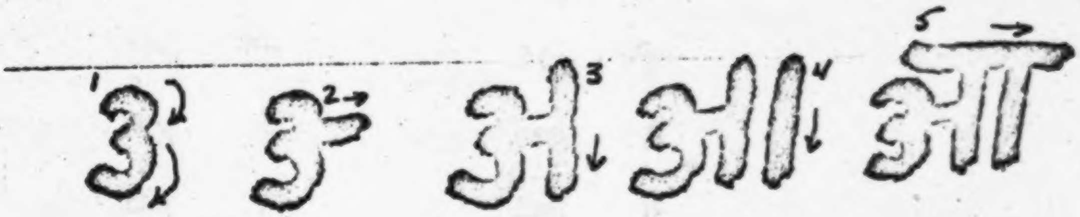
At the beginning of a word, aa is represented by the letter आ

आम aam

आ has somewhat different shapes in different styles of printing and writing. The most common form in printed text is this:

आ

A simpler form may be used in handwriting.



After practicing on scratch paper, copy this letter three times below.

आप

aap

आज

aaj

आना

aanaa

आती

aatii

आज़ाद

aazaad

3/3

आगे

aagee

आबादी

aabaadii

आंख

ããkh

आंगी

ããgii

आसानी

aasaanii

आदाब

aadaab

आदमी

aadmii

आंच

ããc

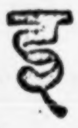
आराम

aaraam

aanee

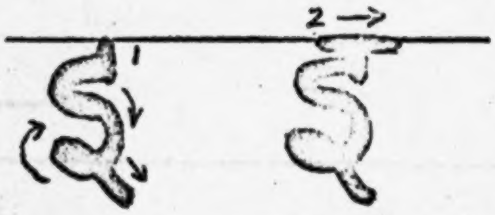
आने

This letter represents the vowel *i*.



इ

Two strokes:



Copy *i* three times.

इस

is

इन

in

इतने

itnee

इलाहाबाद

ilaahaabaad

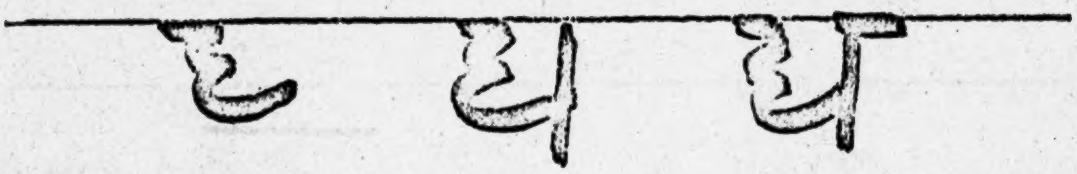
इक्तान

iktaan

This letter represents dh (the aspirated dental d):

ध ध

Notice that dh is not closed across the top.
It is written with three strokes.



Copy dh three times below, being careful not to run the top line all the way across.

____

धीरे

____

- -

dhiiree

____

आधा

____

- -

aadhaa

____

पधार

____

- -

padhaar

____

गधा

____

- -

gadhaa

____

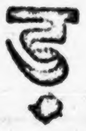
dham

- -

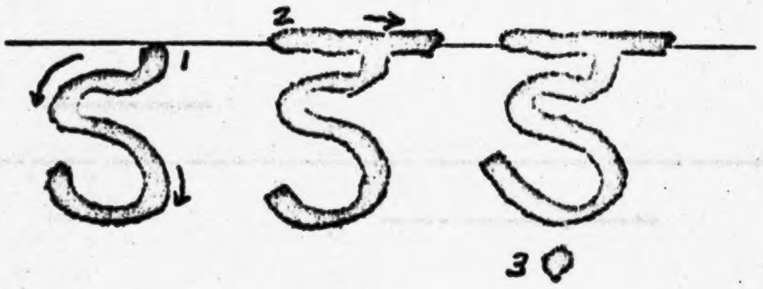
धम

3/9

The consonant R̲ (the retroflex R̲) is represented by this letter:



ड़



Copy R three times.

____

साड़ी

____

saaRii

____

लड़की

____

laRkii

____

खड़े

____

khaRee

____

पड़ना

____

paRnaa

____

peeRaa

पेड़ा

गाड़ी

gaaRii

चमड़ा

camRaa

पगड़ी

pagRii

लड़ाना

laRaanaa

baRii

बड़ी

A word which begins with two consonant letters is pronounced with the vowel a after the first consonant.

मकान	makaan

Similarly, a word which ends with two consonant letters is pronounced with the vowel a before the last consonant.

साहब	saahab

गाहक ____________

____________ gaahak

नामक ____________

____________ naamak

लेखक ____________

____________ leekhak

इधर ____________

____________ idhar

baahar ____________

बाहर

____

पीतल __________

piital

____

सहायक __________

sahaayak

____

बादल __________

baadal

____

लायक __________

laayak

____

paidal

पैदल

____

नागल

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

__________ naagal

चादर

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

__________ caadar

इमारत

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

__________ imaarat

इजाज़त

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

__________ ijaazat

saahab

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

साहब

A word written with three consonant letters only is a two-syllable word, with the vowel a in both syllables.

सड़क	saRak

____

गरम

____

____

garam

____

मदद

____

____

madad

____

ख़तम

____

____

xatam

____

मगर

____

____

magar

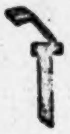
____

baras

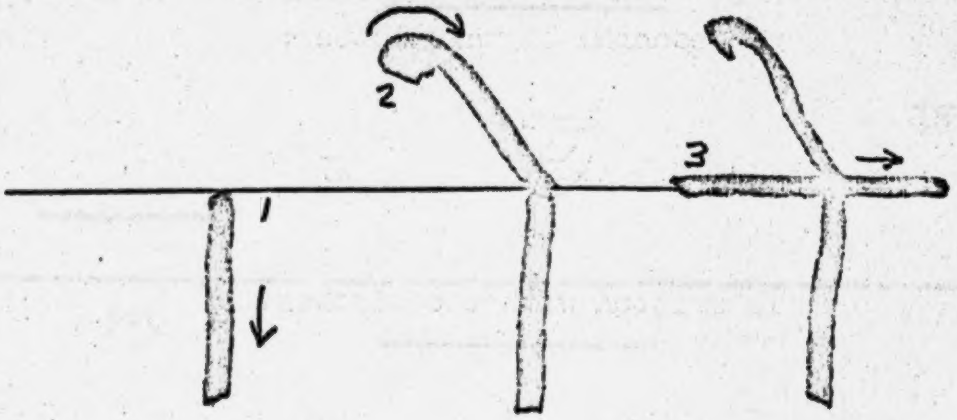
____

बरस

This letter represents the vowel oo.

 ቱ

It consists of a vertical line, as in T aa,
with a short upper line, as for ` ee.
In handwriting, usually the vertical line is written first, and the upper line added next; then, when the word is finished, the top line is drawn across to tie all the letters together.



____

लोग

____

loog

____

देखो

____

deekhoo

____

जो

____

joo

____

बोलें

____

boolẽẽ

____

hõõgee

होंगे

3/

____

होती

____

---

hootii

____

मोज़े

____

---

moozee

____

मोची

____

---

moocii

____

सोचते

____

---

sooctee

____

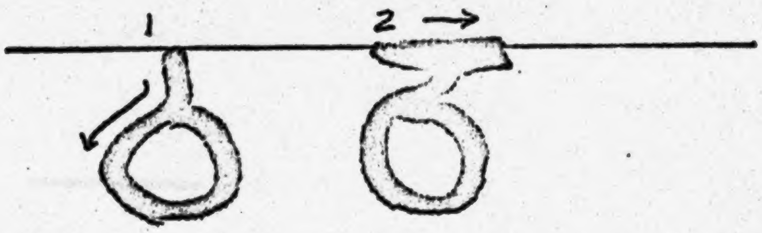
rahoo

रहो

This letter represents the consonant Th
(the retroflex aspirate Th):

ठ ठ

It is written this way:



Copy Th three times.

____

ठीक

____

Thiik

____

मीठा

____

---

miiThaa

____

आठ

____

---

aaTh

____

बैठक

____

---

baiThak

____

saaTh

साठ

____

बैठो

____

- -

baiThoo

____

कोठी

____

- -

kooThii

____

देठें

____

- -

deeThẽẽ

____

ठांखों

____

- -

Thããkhõõ

____

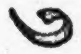
paaTh

- -

पाठ

3/24

This symbol represents the vowel u.
It is written under a consonant letter.



Here are a few examples of u with consonants:

ਚੁ cu ਧੁ dhu ਗੁ gu

u is written with a single clockwise stroke.

____

सुनो

____

- -

sunoo

____

धुलाना

____

- -

dhulaanaa

____

पुरानी

____

- -

puraanii

____

तुम

____

- -

tum

____

dukaan

- -

दुकान

बहुत

bahut

पुल

pul

चुकते

cuktee

खुरचन

khurcan

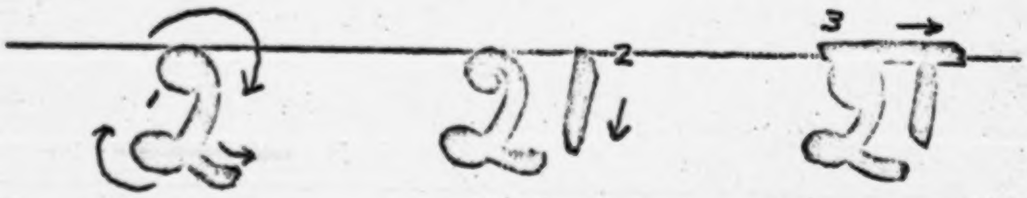
पहुंचना

pahũcnaa

This letter represents š.

श श

š is written in three strokes.



Copy š three times here.

____

शाम

____

šaam

____

आशा

____

aašaa

____

मशीन

____

mašiin

____

ख़ुशी

____

xušii

____

šaadii

शादी

____

काशी

____

- -

kaašii

____

तमाशा

____

- -

tamaašaa

____

देश

____

- -

deeš

____

परेशान

____

- -

pareešaan

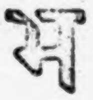
____

šaahii

- -

शाही

This letter indicates the consonant bh:

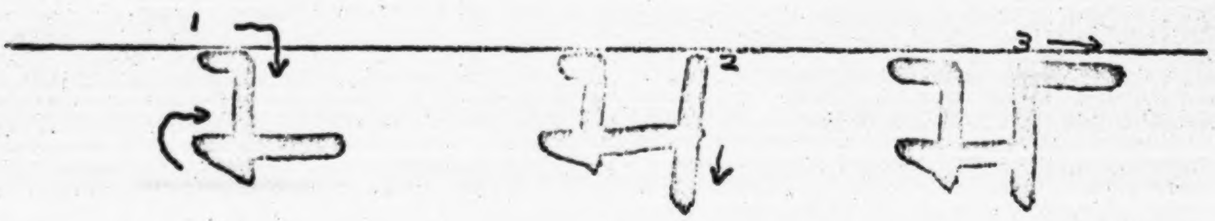
 भ

Notice that bh is open at the top.
Compare it with m, p, and y:

भ भ भ

म प य

In writing bh, the first stroke includes a bit of the top line.



Copy bh three times.

____

____

कभी

____

kabhii

____

भाग

____

bhaag

____

भैंस

____

bhãĩs

____

भरा

____

bharaa

____

sabhaa

सभा

____

भारत

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

bhaarat

____

भीड़

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

bhiiR

____

भोजन

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

bhoojan

____

लगभग

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

lagbhag

____

bhiitar

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

भीतर

This letter represents the consonant th
(the dental aspirate t):

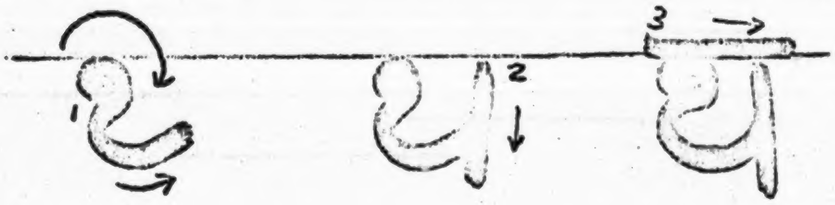
थ　　　थ

th begins with a small circle, which distinguishes
it from y.

थ

य

th need not be closed at the top, but
it may be. If the top line is drawn straight
across, it will not cause th to be confused
with any other letter.



After practicing th, write it here three times.

____

____

थे

____

thee

____

थीं

____

thĭĭ

____

थोड़ी

____

thooRii

____

थकाना

____

thakaanaa

____

haath

हाथ

3 / 35

This letter represents the consonant w. (In transcription, v is also frequently used for this consonant. There is no contrast between w and v in Hindi.)

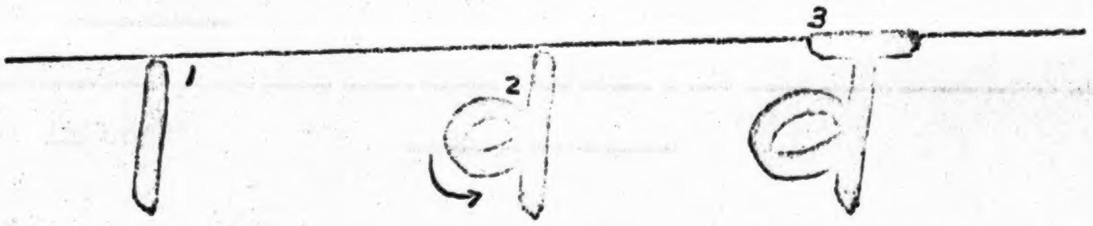
व　　　　व

w is like b, without the crossbar. Compare it also with c:

व　　　　व

ब　　　　च

w is written with three strokes.



Copy w three times.

वहां

wahãã

वाला

waalaa

जवाब

jawaab

दीवार

diiwaar

waziir

वज़ीर

दरवाज़ा

darwaazaa

पांव

pããw

बनवाया

banwaayaa

भवन

bhawan

hawaa

हवा

____

बुधवार

____

__________ budhwaar

____

सोमवार

____

__________ soomwaar

____

वजह

____

__________ wajah

____

वैसे

____

__________ waisee

____

gãäw

__________ गांव

The vowel aa is represented by two letters:

ा is used after a consonant;

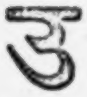
आ is used at the beginning of a word.

राज	raaj
आज	aaj

Similarly the vowel u is represented by two letters. When u follows a consonant, the letter ु is written under the consonant letter:

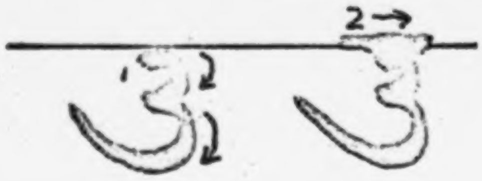
थु	thu

When u occurs at the beginning of a word, it is represented by this letter:



उ

It is written with two strokes:



Copy this letter three times here.

____

उधर

udhar

उतना

utnaa

उजाड़

ujaaR

उठाने

uThaanee

usee

उसे

Devanagari letters introduced in Parts I-III

Consonants

क	k	ख	kh	ग	g				
		ख़	x						
च	c			ज	j				
				ज़	z				
		ठ	Th						
				ड़	R				
त	t	थ	th	द	d	ध	dh	न	n
प	p			ब	b	भ	bh	म	m
		य	y	र	r	ल	l	व	w
		श	š			स	s	ह	h

Vowels

आ	aa	इ	i	उ	u

Syllables

का	kaa	के	kee
की	kii	कै	kai
कु	ku	को	koo

Reading Rules

A written word which begins with two consonant letters is read with the vowel a after the first consonant.

मथुरा	mathuraa
सकता	saktaa
करें	karẽẽ

Similarly, a word which ends with two consonant letters is read with a between the two consonants.

वापस	waapas
शायद	šaayad

These rules also cover shorter words;

words written with only two letters, both of which are consonants:

हम	ham
कब	kab

words written with only three letters, all consonants:

सड़क	saRak
तरह	tarah

The letter ु representing u, was introduced in Part III.

दुकान dukaan

This letter represents uu:

ू

It is written under a consonant letter:

दू duu

____

दूर

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

duur

____

हूं

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

hũũ

____

मशहूर

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

mašhuur

____

भूख

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

bhuukh

____

maaluum

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

मालूम

कबूतर

kabuutar

आंसू

ããsuu

भूलना

bhuulnaa

ख़ूबसूरत

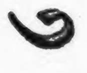
xuubsuurat

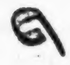
juutee

जूते

Be careful to distinguish between

ු u and ූ uu .





____

सुनो

____

- -

sunoo

____

सूका

____

- -

suukaa

____

सूरज

____

- -

suuraj

____

आलू

____

- -

aaluu

____

kulii

- -

कुली

____

मुलाकत

____

- -

mulaakat

____

मज़दूरी

____

- -

mazduurii

____

बुधवार

____

- -

budhwaar

____

मथुरा

____

- -

mathuraa

____

yũũhii

- -

यूंहो

चलूंगा

calüügaa

पुराने

puraanee

धूप

dhuup

ख़ुदा

xudaa

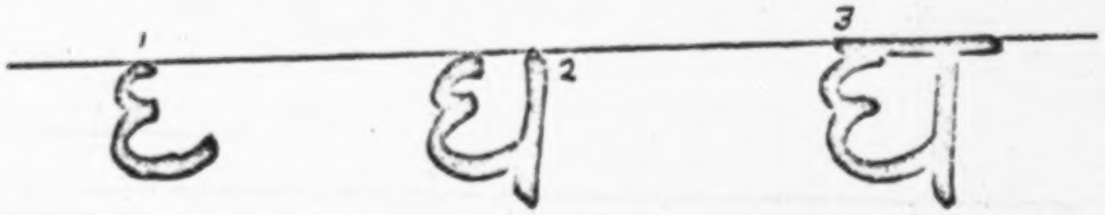
kahüügii

कहूंगी

This letter represents the consonant gh:

ਘ ਘ

gh is written with three strokes:



Notice that ਘ gh is like ਧ dh,
but closed across the top.

Copy gh several times.

____

घर

____

ghar

____

घास

____

ghaas

____

घेर

____

gheer

____

घूमते

____

ghuumtee

____

ghii

घी

आघात

aaghaat

आधा

aadhaa

घड़ी

ghaRii

धीरे

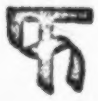
dhiiree

गांधी

gããdhii

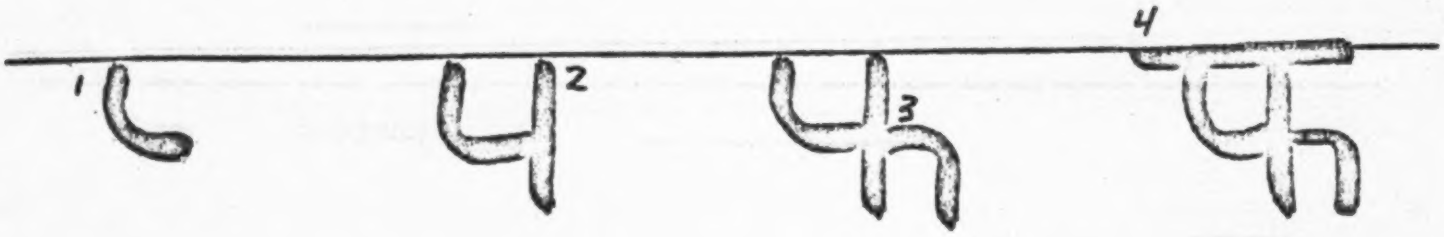
4/12

This letter represents the consonant ph:



फ

ph may be written in four strokes.



After practicing ph, copy it several times below.

4/13

____

फल

____

phal

____

फुटूर

____

phutuur

____

फुंकता

____

phũktaa

____

गफी

____

gaphii

____

phuul

फुल

4/14

The letter फ with a dot below it indicates the consonant f.

फ़ फ़

____

काफ़ी

____

kaafii

____

फ़ुरसात

____

fursaat

____

माफ़

____

maaf

____

तरफ़

____

taraf

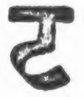
____

दफ़ा

____

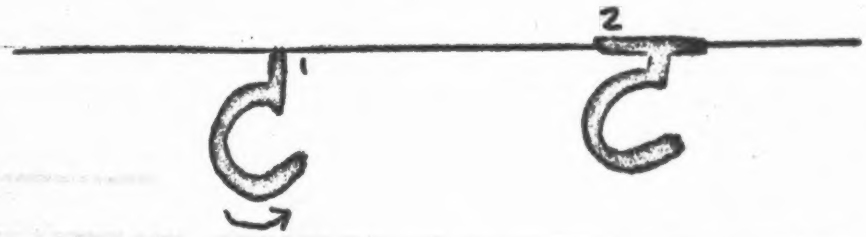
dafaa

This letter represents the retroflex consonant T̲:



ट

It is written in two strokes.



Copy T̲ several times here.

9/17

टोपी

Toopii

आटूं

aaTũũ

उटज

uTaj

टूटा

TuuTaa

phaT

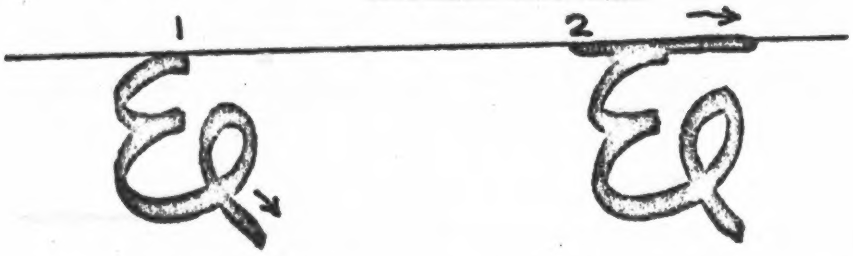
फट

4/

This letter represents the consonant ch:

छ छ

ch is written in two strokes.



After sufficient practice, copy this letter several times.

छोटा

chooTaa

कुछ

kuch

छटांक

chaTããk

छोड़ी

chooRii

पीछे

piichee

The consonant letter jh has two common forms.
In print, this is the most frequent shape:

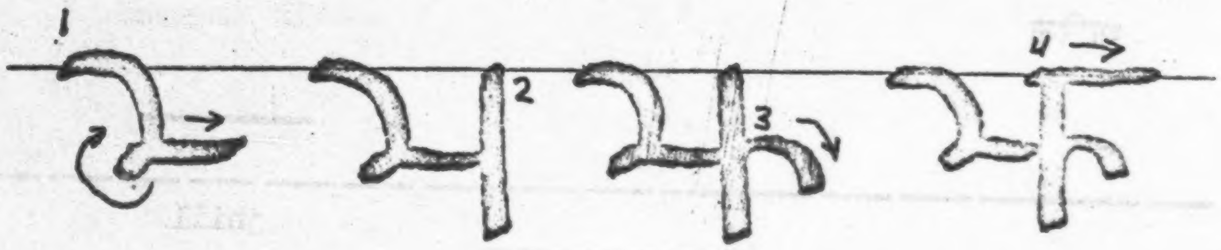
झ

The typewriter uses this shape:

झ

This form of jh is simply the letter भ (bh) with an added hook at the right. Both are open at the top.

In handwriting, the simpler form is usually used:



Copy jh several times:

____

मुझे

____

mujhee

____

झोला

____

jhoolaa

____

झील

____

jhiil

____

समझे

____

samjhee

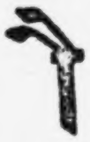
____

उझीं

____

ujhii

This letter indicates the vowel au.



ौ

This letter is used only after a consonant. In the other positions (after another vowel or initially in the word) a different letter represents au.

ौ is simply the vertical line of aa ा with the two raised strokes of ai ै.

____

कौन

____

---

kaun

____

नौ

____

---

nau

____

चौबीस

____

---

caubiis

____

लौटूंगा

____

---

lauTüügaa

____

mausam

मौसम

After a consonant, the vowel uu is represented by the letter ू :

दू dūū

At the beginning of a word, uu is represented by this letter:

ऊ ऊ

Compare it with this letter, which indicates u at the beginning of a word:

उ उ

ऊपर

uupar

ऊंचा

ũũcaa

ऊधम

uudham

ऊड़ी

uuṚii

ऊटता

uuTtaa

4

ऊ is also used after another vowel:

साऊ	saauu

____

जाऊंगी __________

jaũũgii

____

खड़ाऊं __________

khaRaaũũ

____

आऊंगा __________

aaũũgaa

____

बनाऊं __________

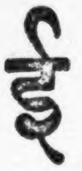
banaaũũ

____

khaaũũ

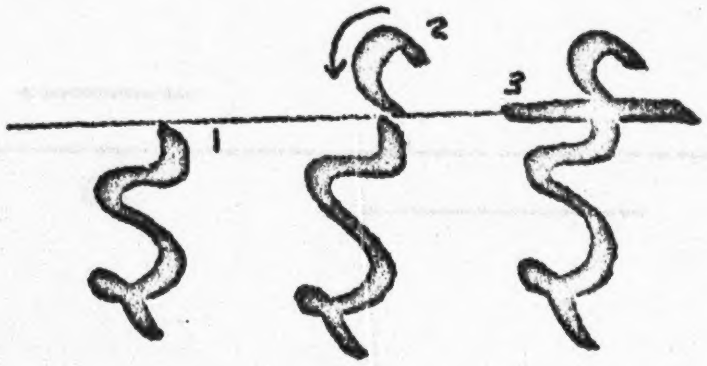
खाऊं

At the beginning of a word, the vowel ii is represented by this letter:



ई

ई consists of इ (which represents i at the beginning of a word) with an additional hook above the line.



____

ईद

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

iid

____

ईश

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

iiš

____

ईथर

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

iithar

____

ईजाद

____

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

iijaad

____

iihaa

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

ईहा

The vowel uu is represented by two letters;

ू is used after a consonant:

लूं	lũũ

ऊ is used at the beginning of a word, or after another vowel:

ऊपर	uupar
लाऊं	laaũũ

The two letters for aa are used in the same way; ा after a consonant:

जा	jaa

आ at the beginning of a word, or after another vowel:

आज	aaj
दुआ	duaa

There are also two letters for the vowel ii;

ी is used after a consonant:

की	kii

ई is used at the beginning of a word, or after another vowel:

ईक	iik
ईसाई	iisaaii

खाई

khaaii

चौड़ाई

cauRaaii

कोई

kooii

बधाई

badhaaii

रासोई

raasooii

बाईस

baaiis

तेईस

teeiis

धुलाई

dhulaaii

चलाईं

calaaĩĩ

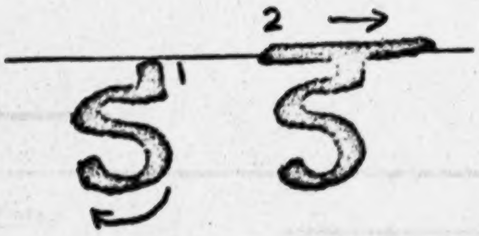
bhaaii

भाई

The retroflex consonant D̲ is indicated by this letter.

ड ड

Two strokes:



Copy D̲.

____

डर

Dar

डुबवाना

Dubwaanaa

डौड़ी

DauRii

डकैती

Dakaitii

DãaT

डांट

______

डफली

______

Daphlii

______

डाँड़ा

______

DãũRaa

______

उडुप

______

uDup

______

डभकें

______

Dabhkẽẽ

______

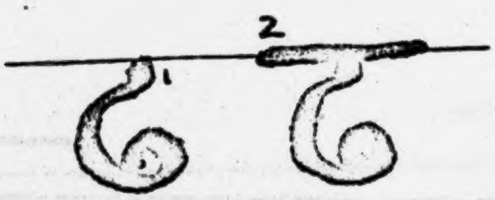
Daahuk

डाहुक

The retroflex aspirated consonant Dh is represented by this letter:

ढ ढ

Dh is written this way:



Copy Dh several times.

ढाई

Dhaaii

ढूंढो

DhũũDhoo

ढालू

Dhaaluu

ढकती

Dhaktii

Dhool

ढोल

4/38

The letter ढ with a dot indicates Rh.

ढ़   ढ़

____

साढ़े

____

saaRhee

____

गढ़

____

gaRh

____

बूढ़ा

____

buuRhaa

____

डेढ़

____

DeeRh

____

paRhii

____

पढ़ी

4/40

____

पढ़वाना

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

paRhwaanaa

____

ढीला

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

Dhiilaa

____

सीढ़ी

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

siiRhii

____

चढ़ाई

____

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

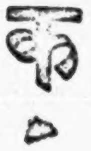
caRhaaii

____

saaRhuu

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

साढ़ू



क़

The letter क with a dot under it indicates the consonant q̱. (The transcription ḵ̣ is also used for this sound.)

क़रीब

____

qariib

क़ानून

____

qaanuun

मौक़ा

____

mauqaa

मुलाक़ात

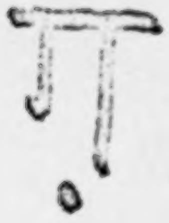
____

mulaaqaat

लायक़

____

laayaq



ग़

The letter ग with a dot represents the consonant ğ (often written g̣).

4/44

____

बाग़

____

__________ baağ

ग़रीब

____

__________ ğariib

ग़लत

____

__________ ğalat

काग़ज़

____

__________ kaağaz

वग़ैरह

____

wağairah

The consonants ğ x q z f are not used by all Hindi speakers. They are 'Urdu' sounds; that is, they occur only in words of Persian and Arabic origin. These five consonants are part of the normal speech pattern of millions or Hindi-Urdu speakers, most of whom are Moslems. Many speakers however do not have all of them. These speakers replace them with other consonants.

A speaker who does not have the consonant q in his repertory replaces it with k; for qamiiz, he will say kamiiz. In terms of spelling, he uses क instead of क़ .

Similarly, a Hindi speaker who does not use x replaces it with kh; an 'Urdu' speaker will say xatam, while a 'Hindi' speaker will say khatam. If the first speaker writes in the Devanagari script, he will probably write this word with the letter ख़ ; the second person will write ख .

In the same way, a speaker who does not use ğ says g, and writes ग without the dot.

There are many people who do not have the consonants z and f, but use j and ph -- taajaa for taazaa, kaaphii for kaafii. (This kind of speech is usually considered rather unsophistocated, and is not recommended to the student. But many perfectly respectable Hindi speakers do not have ğ x and q. Many people, however, who do not have these three consonants in their normal speech have learned them through formal education, and use them when they remember to.)

'Urdu' consonant		Substitution	
क़	q	क	k
ख़	x	ख	kh
ग़	ğ	ग	g
ज़	z	ज	j
फ़	f	फ	ph

The student must be warned that writers (and printers) are usually very careless about the use of these dots.

On the other hand, the distinctions between ड D and ड़ R, ढ Dh and ढ़ Rh are much more real to almost all Hindi-Urdu speakers. The dots under these letters are rarely omitted.

Devanagari letters introduced in Parts I-IV

aa	i	ii	u	uu	आ	इ	ई	उ	ऊ
k	kh	g	gh		क	ख	ग	घ	
q	x	ǧ			क़	ख़	ग़		
c	ch	j	jh		च	छ	ज	झ	
		z					ज़		
T	Th	D	Dh		ट	ठ	ड	ढ	
		R	Rh				ड़	ढ़	
t	th	d	dh	n	त	थ	द	ध	न
p	ph	b	bh	m	प	फ	ब	भ	म
y	r	l	v		य	र	ल	व	
š		s	h		श		स	ह	
kaa	kii	ku	kuu		का	की	कु	कू	
kee	kai	koo	kau		के	कै	को	कौ	

5/1

अ अ अ

When the vowel a occurs at the beginning of a word, it is indicated by this letter.

अ is simply आ without the second vertical line.

____

अभी

____

abhii

____

अख़बार

____

axbaar

____

अमीर

____

amiir

____

अजीब

____

ajiib

____

agar

अगर

A postposition may be written as a separate word, or it may be joined to the preceding word.

बाज़ार में	बाज़ारमें
आप का	आपका

इसमें

is-mẽẽ

कबतक

kab-tak

उनकी

un-kii

आपको

aap-koo

अबसे

ab-see

5/5

When the vowel i follows a consonant, the letter ि is used. It is written to the left of the consonant.

कि	ki
गि	gi
नो	noo
गिनो	ginoo
लि	li
खो	khoo
लिखो	likhoo
खाना	khaanaa
दि	di
दिखाना	dikhaanaa
लो	loo
मि	mi
मिलो	miloo

____

किताब

____

kitaab

____

मिठाई

____

miThaaii

____

बिकें

____

bikẽẽ

____

लिखना

____

likhnaa

____

TikaT

टिकट

5/7

ड़ि	Ri
ड़ियां	Riyãã
सा	saa
साड़ियां	saaRiyãã

कि	ki
कियां	kiyãã
लड़	laR
लड़कियां	laRkiyãã

टि	Ti
टियां	Tiyãã
बे	bee
बेटियां	beeTiyãã

पि	pi
पियां	piyãã
टो	Too
टोपियां	Toopiyãã

नि	ni
निये	niyee
सु	su
सुनिये	suniyee

ठि	Thi
ठिये	Thiyee
बै	bai
बैठिये	baiThiyee

हि	hi
हिये	hiyee
चा	caa
चाहिये	caahiyee

जि	ji
जिये	jiyee
ली	lii
लीजिये	liijiyee
पीजिये	piijiyee
दीजिये	diijiyee
कीजिये	kiijiyee

____

धोतियां

____

— — — — — — — — — — — —

________ dhootiyãã

गाड़ियां

____

— — — — — — — — — — — —

________ gaaRiyãã

घूमिये

____

— — — — — — — — — — — —

ghuumiyee

____

खोलिये

____

— — — — — — — — — — — —

khooliyee

____

siikhiyee

— — — — — — — — — — — —

सीखिये

5/10

____

ऊहित

____

____

uuhit

____

आख़िरी

____

____

aaxirii

____

अधिक

____

____

adhik

____

उभिरिये

____

____

ubhiriyee

____

itihaas

____

इतिहास

5/11

खि	khi
खिये	khiyee
दे	dee
देखिये	deekhiyee

खिये	khiyee
लि	li
लिखिये	likhiyee

लि	li
लिये	liyee
मि	mi
मिलिये	miliyee

गिनिये

giniyee

डिढिया

DiDhiyaa

फिटिन

phiTin

झिरिका

jhirikaa

thiriyee

थिरिये

5/13

चल	cal
चलिये	caliyee
रह	rah
रहिये	rahiyee
पढ़	paRh
पढ़िये	paRhiyee
खड़	khaR
खड़िये	khaRiyee
कह	kah
कहिये	kahiyee
कठ	kaTh
कठिनाई	kaThinaaii
शन	šan
शनिवार	šaniwaar
पर	par
परिचित	paricit
कव	kaw
कवि	kawi

चकित

cakit

ख़ैरियत

xairiyat

रविवार

rawiwaar

पहिया

pahiyaa

yadi

यदि

If the first two letters of a written word are consonants, the vowel a is pronounced between them. The word sawaa, for instance, is spelled with three separate letters:

स s, व w, and ा aa. सवा sawaa

When two consonants are pronounced together at the beginning of a word, with no vowel between them, a special symbol is used. This symbol is a combination of the two consonant letters. We can call this kind of symbol a double consonant letter.

To write a word beginning swaa..., a double consonant letter is necessary.

स्वा swaa

Note the difference:

सवा	स्वा
sawaa	swaa

The double consonant letter स्व sw is a combination of the Devanagari letters स s and व w. It consists of 'half-s' स् and w व .

स - व स्व

स्वामी

swaamii

स्वाल

swaal

स्वामिनी

swaaminii

स्वाहा

swaahaa

स्वेदित

sweedit

5/

Double consonant letters made with 'half-s̲' स्

स्थान

sthaan

स्कूल

skuul

स्मर

smar

स्नान

snaan

स्तर

star

If a consonant letter has a vertical line on its right edge, the 'half-letter' omits it.

full letter	half-letter	with y य
स	स्	स्य
ग	ग्	ग्य
प	प्	प्य
म	म्	म्य
त	त्	त्य
न	न्	न्य
थ	थ्	थ्य
भ	भ्	भ्य
श	श्	श्य
ल	ल्	ल्य
व	व्	व्य
ब	ब्	ब्य
च	च्	च्य
ख	ख्	ख्य
ज	ज्	ज्य
ध	ध्	ध्य

For 'half-k' the right side is omitted.

क	क्	क्य

ग्यारह

gyaarah

ग्लास

glaas

ग्वार

gwaar

प्यास

pyaas

प्लुत

plut

क्या

kyaa

ख़्याल

xyaal

ज़्यादा

zyaadaa

त्योहार

tyoohaar

ध्यान

dhyaan

____

न्यायालत

______

____

nyaayaalat

____

प्याज़

______

____

pyaaz

____

ब्लाक

______

____

blaak

____

स्वागत

______

____

svaagat

____

श्मशान

______

____

šmašaan

A double consonant letter must also be used at the end of a word to indicate two consonants with no intervening vowel.

पस्त	past
मुख्य	mukhy

मुल्क

mulk

योग्य

ycogy

स्माप्त

smaapt

गोश्त

goošt

नुक़स

nuks

5/24

Double consonant letters are also used in the middle of a word.

सुन्दर

sundar

हिन्दी

hindii

हिन्दुस्तान

hindustaan

सुस्त

sust

हिस्सा

hissaa

अतिरिक्त

atirikt

हुक्म

hukm

अच्छा

acchaa

पक्के

pakkee

रसगुल्ला

rasgullaa

____

पसन्द

____

pasand

____

जल्दी

____

jaldii

____

धब्बे

____

dhabbee

____

इक्कीस

____

ikkiis

____

चप्पल

____

campal

स्थिति

sthiti

मुश्किल

muškil

इन्तज़ाम

intizaam

स्विस

[illegible]

स्निग्घ

snigdh

5/

All of the double consonant letters which have been introduced so far consist of the 'half-letter' form of the first consonant, combined with the full form of the second consonant letter.

There are some double consonant letters in which the second letter (or part of it) is added below or inside the first letter. The shapes of both letters may be modified.

द - द	द्द	आद्दा	aaddaa
द - व	द्व	आद्वा	aadwaa
द - य	द्य	आद्या	aadyaa

These are the only vertical combinations which will be used in this Introduction.

____

द्वारा

____

dwaaraa

____

द्वीप

____

dwiip

____

द्वितीय

____

dwitiiy

____

द्युत

____

dyut

____

द्युतिमन्द

____

dyutimand

गद्दा

gaddaa

रद्दी

raddii

मुद्दत

muddat

उद्देश्य

uddeešy

कद्दू

kadduu

When a double consonant letter is required, but the shapes of the letters to be combined make it difficult to join them, the sign called halant हलन्त may be used to tie them together. Halant is a short slant line at the lower right part of the first of the two letters which it joins.

ड्ड	DD
ट्ठ	TTh
द्ध	ddh

अड्डा

aDDaa

मिट्ठी

miTThii

बुद्ध

buddh

अट्ठावन

aTTaawan

हफ़्ता

haftaa

Review and summary of the vowel letters

Each Hindi vowel sound is indicated by two letters, which are used in different places. One letter represents the vowel when it follows a consonant.

का	kaa	के	kee
कि	ki	कै	kai
की	kii	को	koo
कु	ku	कौ	kau
कू	kuu		

The other letter is used at the beginning of a word.

आक	aak
इक	ik
ईक	iik
उक	uk
ऊक	uuk

The same letters are used after another vowel.

कुआं	kuãã
कोई	kooii
खाऊं	khaaũũ

(The others are seldom found following another vowel.)

The exception to this system is the vowel a. At the beginning of a word, it is written with the letter अ .

अब ab

(If a ever occurs after another vowel, it will be written with this letter.) When a follows a consonant, however, it is not indicated by a letter. The Reading Rules show where a is pronounced. The basic rule is this: when a word begins or ends with two consonant letters, a is to be read between the two consonant sounds. (A double consonant letter counts as one letter.)

The vowel letters which have been introduced so far are these:

अ	-	a
आ	ा	aa
इ	ि	i
ई	ी	ii
उ	ु	u
ऊ	ू	uu
	े	ee
	ै	ai
	ो	oo
	ौ	au

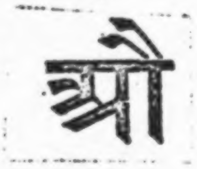
The other letters for the last four vowels will be introduced in the following pages.

In the order of the alphabet (the order in which words are listed in the dictionary) the vowels come first, in the order shown in the list above. Notice that short a comes before long aa, i before ii, and u before uu.

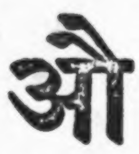
When the vowel au follows a consonant, it is written ौ :

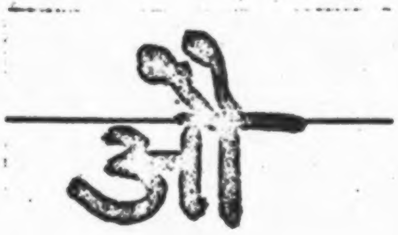
कौन kaun

At the beginning of a word, au is written with this letter:

 औ

औ is simply ौ with अ before it.





____

और

____

aur

____

औरत

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aurat

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औज़ार

____

auzaar

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औंधा

____

ãũdhaa

____

aujhar

औझर

6/4

When *r* is one of the members of a double consonant letter, it has special forms. When *r* is the second member of the combination, it is indicated by a short slant line added to the full form of the first consonant.

प्र	pr
ब्र	br
ग्र	gr
क्र	kr
व्र	wr

प्रान

praan

प्रेम

preem

प्रयोग

prayoog

प्रदेश

pradeeš

ब्रज

braj

6/6

७

ब्रीड़ेंगे

briiRẽẽgee

ब्रात

braat

ग्राम

graam

ग्रामिक

graamik

ग्रस्तास्त

grastaast

6/7

क्रम

kram

क्रिया

kriyaa

शुक्रिया

thank you

šukriyaa

व्रती

wratii

व्रात्य

wraaty

In a few double consonant letters with r̲ as the second member, the shape of the first consonant is somewhat modified.

त्र	tr
श्र	šr

6/9

____

त्रास

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

traas

____

त्रैराशिक

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

trairaašik

____

त्रिग्रामी

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

trigraamii

____

पत्र

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

patr

____

मात्रिक

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

maatrik

6/10

श्री

Mr.

šrii

श्रोत्रिय

šrootriy

श्रीमन्त

šriimant

आश्रित

aašrit

श्रौन

šraun

6/11

In the double consonant letters for Tr and Dr, r is represented by a wedge below the other letter.

ट्र	Tr
ड्र	Dr

ट्राम

Traam

ट्रेन

Treen

ड्रेस

dress

Drees

ड्रिल

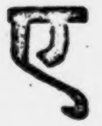
Dril

ड्राइवर

Draaiwar

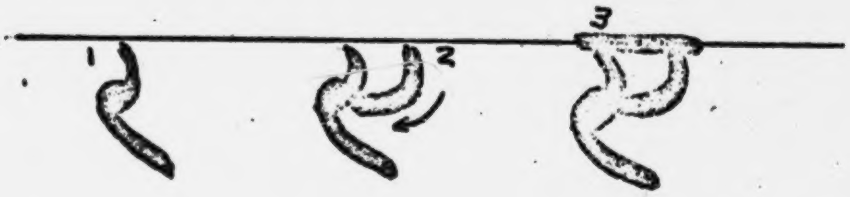
6/13

At the beginning of a word or after another vowel, the vowel ee is indicated by this letter:



ए

It is written in three strokes.



Copy ee three times here.

____

6/14

____

एक

____

eek

____

एकांकित

____

eekăăkit

____

एकाएक

____

suddenly

eekaaeek

____

एकत्र

____

eekatr

____

एंडुआ

____

ĕĕDuaa

6/

With the consonant र the vowels *u* and *uu* have special shapes. *u* is indicated by a short curve attached to the middle of र :

रु

The symbol for *ruu* has an additional loop.

रू

रुको

rukoo

रूमाल

ruumaal

रुरु

ruru

शुरू

šuruu

नेहरू

neehruu

____

करूँगी

____

karũũgii

____

ज़रूर

____

zaruur

____

चरु

____

caru

____

रुचिर

____

rucir

____

रूनो

____

ruunoo

6/18

एकरूप

eekruup

औरुज़

auruz

यारूथब

yaaruuthab

इरूएं

iruuẽẽ

करूं

karũũ

6/19

When *r* is the first member of a consonant combination, it has the special shape र्, a small hook written above and to the right of the second consonant.

र्द	rd
र्क	rk

____

धर्म

religion

____

dharm

____

बर्फ़

____

barf

____

फ़र्श

____

farš

____

निर्सन

____

nirsan

____

तीर्थ

____

tiirth

____

अर्थ

____

__________ arth

आश्चर्य

____

__________ aašcary

अर्ज़

____

__________ arz

आर्डर

____

__________ aarDar

सिर्फ़

____

sirf

____

गिर्जाघर

church

____

____

____________ girjaaghar

आर्थिक

____

____

____________ aarthik

गोलार्ध

____

____

____________ goolaardh

वर्ग

____

____

____________ warg

मूर्ति

____

____

muurti

When r is the first member of a consonant combination which is followed by a vowel, the small hook which represents r is placed to the right of the following vowel letter.

र्था	rthaa
र्थी	rthii
र्थे	rthee
र्थो	rthoo

6/24

गर्मी

summer, heat

garmii

दर्जी

darjaa

दरी

darraa

सर्दी

sardii

मुर्ग़ी

chicken

murğii

6/25

____

विद्यार्थी

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

widyaarthii

____

निर्यात

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

niryaat

____

चर्चा

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

carcaa

____

निर्वाचन

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

nirwaacan

____

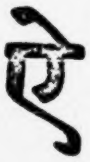
अर्थी

____

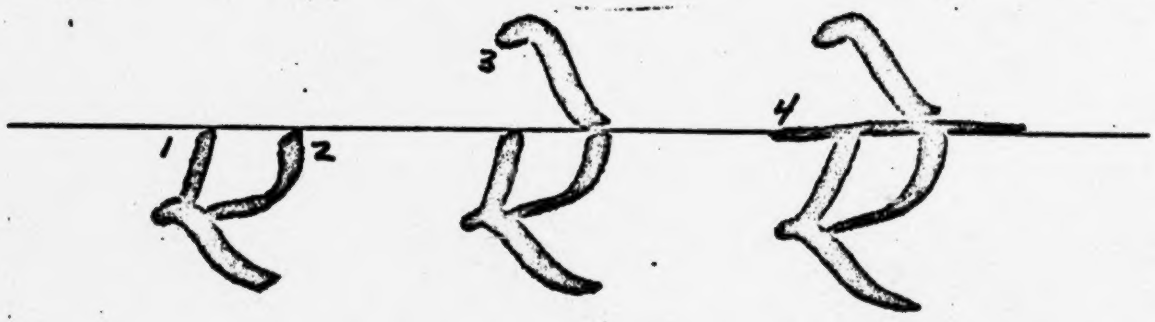
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

arthii

This letter represents the vowel ai.
It is used at the beginning of a word,
or after another vowel.

 ऐ

This is the letter ए with an added stroke
above the top line.



____

ऐसा

____

aisaa

____

ऐतिहासिक

____

aitihaasik

____

ऐश्वर्य

____

aišwary

____

ऐंद्री

____

ãĩdrii

____

ऐंछिये

____

ãĩchiyee

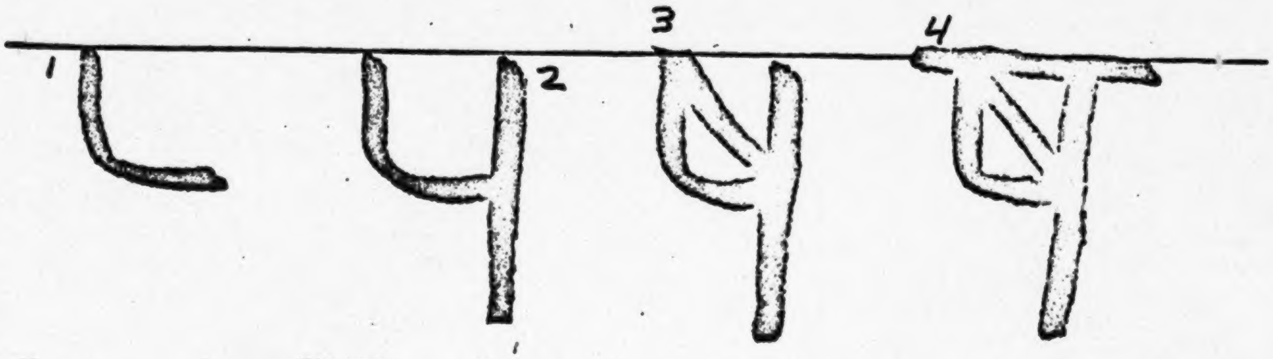
6/28

The consonant š̱ is usually represented by the letter श . In some words, however, š̱ is indicated by this letter:

ष ष

At an earlier stage in the history of the language, ष represented a retroflex variety of s̱. This retroflex s̱ has disappeared from modern colloquial Hindi, but the letter ष has been retained in the spelling of many words.

ष looks like प with a diagonal line through it.



The 'half-letter' form of this letter is ष् .

6)

षट्शास्त्र	šaTšaastr
षष्ठी	šašThii
षोड़श	šooRaš
षडानन	šaDaanan
षड्रिपु	šaDripu

6/30

____

ऐषीक

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

aišiik

____

भाषा

____

language _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

bhaašaa

____

एकोदिष्ट

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

eekoodišT

____

षर्का

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

šarkaa

____

कष्ट

____

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

kašT

6/

ईर्षा

iiršaa

ईर्ष्या

iiršyaa

ईर्ष्यालु

iiršyaalu

इष्टि

išTi

ऊषा

uušaa

After a consonant, the vowel oo is indicated by the letter ो :

को koo

At the beginning of a word, or after another vowel, oo is represented by this letter:

ओ ओ

ओ ओ

ओझाई

oojhaaii

ओंठ

ŏŏTh

ओल्यो

oolyoo

ओरौंता

oorautaa

ओढर

ooDhar

6/34

जाओ

Go!

jaaoo

खाओ

Eat!

khaaoo

पीओ

Drink!

piioo

आओ

Come!

aaoo

बताओ

Say!

bataaoo